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SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 40
46TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2003

INTRODUCED BY
Stuart Ingle

A JOINT MEMORIAL
REQUESTING THE PARTICIPATION OF STAKEHOLDERS, AGENCIES,
LEGISLATORS AND THE GOVERNOR IN THE NEW MEXICO FOOD AND
AGRICULTURE POLICY COUNCIL.

WHEREAS, the state of New Mexico has historically had a
large and important agricultural sector, comprised of many and
diverse types of agricultural endeavors; and

WHEREAS, residents of this state are currently
experiencing a high level of food insecurity ranging from
simple lack of food to poor nutrition and dependence on distant
production sources; and

WHEREAS, residents of New Mexico have a long and honorable
history of organizing themselves around issues of common
concern and working together toward creative solutions to
particular problems; and

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1 WHEREAS, a number of governmental agencies and departments
2 of New Mexico share the above concerns relating to food,
3 nutrition, agriculture, education and economic development
4 through improved agricultural production, environmental
5 improvement and healthy nutrition; and

6 WHEREAS, many of the solutions sought will involve policy
7 issues, through the impact on governmental rules and
8 regulations on the viability of the agricultural sector and on
9 the ability of people of all backgrounds to obtain sufficient,
10 high-quality food for themselves and their families; and

11 WHEREAS, residents and agency personnel have already begun
12 meeting to create an organization, the New Mexico food and
13 agriculture policy council, with the express mission of
14 providing a forum for the discussion of food and agricultural
15 issues by a diverse cross section of the citizenry and state
16 agencies, the identification of priority policies and actions
17 and the education of the public and private sectors about these
18 issues with the goal of improving New Mexico's food and
19 agricultural systems;

20 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
21 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the creation of the New Mexico food
22 and agriculture policy council be acknowledged as a wise and
23 prudent action, initiated by citizens and allowing them to work
24 with the public sector and with private entities toward the
25 strengthening of all New Mexicans' access to sufficient, high-

1 quality food and of the economy of New Mexico's ranches, farms
2 and value-adding food processors; and

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, upon the formation of this
4 policy council, the governor, stakeholders, agencies of state
5 government and legislators be encouraged to participate in the
6 New Mexico food and agriculture policy council; and

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
8 transmitted to the governor for distribution to state agencies,
9 stakeholders and legislators.

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